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Via ECFS
Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

**Re: In the Matter of USTelecom for Forbearance Pursuant to
47 U.S.C. Section 160(c); WC Docket No. 18-141; Category 1**

Dear FCC,

I am a consumer, an independent researcher, and a telecommuter. Internet access is crucial to my livelihood. I use a number of remote data sources and digital libraries to do my research. I also telecommute to a faculty job more than 1800 miles away. Personally, VoIP service and Skype allows me to keep in daily communication with my elderly mother. I rely on good ISP service!

I chose a local provider (Sonic) because the cost of their fiber-based internet + phone service was competitive (it was less than half of what I'd been paying before), the provider's access policies were well-aligned with my own concerns, and their customer service was substantially better than my former ISP. Everything Sonic has done for me has been on time, friendly, and has worked the way it was supposed to. The same was not true of the giant nationwide broadband provider I had before I switched.

Local competition is important! I support broadband competition to keep prices low and service quality high. Please don't take away my ability to choose a better ISP!

Thank you for your attention.

Catherine Marshall